

years, and the verses that I have committed to memory are not only a delight to my ears, but a balm to my soul as well. I try to be selective in the poems I memorize. It does take time. It takes effort. It takes energy. It takes determination. It takes discipline to memorize poetry. I frequently make use of these poems in my speeches, carefully choosing a verse that captures the essence of my message, always assured that its beauty will deliver in the keenest sense what I try to convey. One such poem which has served me well is by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow: "The Building of The Ship."

Thou, too, sail on, O Ship of State!
Sail on, O Union, strong and great!
Humanity with all its fears,
With all the hopes of future years,
Is hanging breathless on thy fate!
We know what Master laid thy keel,
What Workmen wrought thy ribs of steel,
Who made each mast, and sail, and rope,
What anvils rang, what hammers beat,
In what a forge and what a heat
Were shaped the anchors of thy hope!
Fear not each sudden sound and shock,
'Tis of the wave and not the rock;
'Tis but the flapping of the sail,
And not a rent made by the gale!
In spite of rock and tempest's roar,
In spite of false lights on the shore,
Sail on, nor fear to breast the sea!
Our hearts, our hopes, are all with thee,
Our hearts, our hopes, our prayers, our tears,
Our faith triumphant o'er our fears,
Are all with thee, are all with thee!

Can one think of a more beautiful description of the promise of America, and of what we as Senators have a duty to protect? We have nothing less than the hopes of mankind in our charge!

Poetry is man's attempt to reach up and out of his human skin, and connect, just for a moment, with something perfect and eternal.

Edwin Markham's, "A Workman To The Gods," could be seen as a tribute to the perfection sought by the poet.

Once Phidias stood, with hammer in his hand,
Carving Minerva from the breathing stone,
Tracing with love the winding of a hair,
A single hair upon her head,
Whereon a youth of Athens cried,
"O Phidias, why do you dally on a hidden hair?
When she is lifted to the lofty front
Of the Parthenon, no human eye will see."
And Phidias thundered on him:
"Silence, slave: Men will not see, but the Immortals will!"

Like the carving of Minerva that Phidias so carefully chiseled into the relief of the Parthenon, a well crafted poem lifts all of humanity and is an undeniable testimony to the immortal nature and exceptional beauty of the human soul.

A poem is a symphony of words just waiting to be played, and, like any good piece of music, it only improves with the playing. My own repertoire of poems has provided me with great spiritual enrichment and the special comfort of finding meaning in my own ex-

periences which I might not otherwise have easily discerned. I applaud the efforts of the Academy of American Poets and the programs that they have organized for the sixth annual National Poetry Month. Through celebrations such as this, I hope that poetry will come to be appreciated by a new generation of Americans so that they might enjoy the deep spiritual enrichment that poetry has provided to so many. I should mention that great English novelist and poet, Rudyard Kipling, who received the Nobel Prize for literature in 1907 and about whom I was reading when I was yet in high school in the early 1930's

In his "Recessional" and similar pieces, Kipling addressed himself to his fellow countryman in times of crises. Today I shall only quote from Kipling's "The Heritage":

Our fathers in a wondrous age,
Ere yet the earth was small,
Ensured to us a heritage,
And doubted not at all,
That we, the children of their heart,
Which then did beat so high,
In later time should play like part
For our posterity
Then, fretful, murmur not they gave
So great a charge to keep,
Nor dream that awestruck time shall save
Their labor while we sleep.
Dear-bought and clear, a thousand year
Our father's title runs.
Make we likewise their sacrifice,
Defrauding not our sons.

I shall close with one of the poems by Henry Van Dyke, another poet and essayist popular in the closing days of the 19th century and the early decades of the 20th century. This poem, "America For Me," has been very popular with my own constituents for whom I have quoted it so many, many times during my travels in the West Virginia hills.

Tis fine to see the Old World, and travel up
and down
Among the famous palaces and cities of renown,
To admire the crumple castles and the statues of the kings,
But now I think I've had enough of antiquated things.
So it's home again, and home again, America for me!
My heart is turning home again, and there I long to be,
In the land of youth and freedom beyond the ocean bars,
Where the air is full of sunlight and the flag is full of stars.
Oh, London is a man's town, there's power in the air;
And Paris is a woman's town, with flowers in her hair;
And it's sweet to dream in Venice, and it's great to study in Rome
But when it comes to living there is just no place like home.
I like the German fir-woods, in green battalions drilled,
I like the gardens of Versailles with flashing fountains filled;
But, oh, to take your hand, my dear, and ramble for a day

In the friendly western woodland where Nature has her way!

I know that Europe's wonderful, yet something seems to lack:

The Past is too much with her, and the people looking back.

But the glory of the Present is to make the Future free,

We love our land for what she is and what she is to be.

Oh, it's home again, and home again, America for me!

I want a ship that's westward bound to plough the rolling sea,

To the blessed Land of Room Enough beyond the ocean bars,

Where the air is full of sunlight and the flag is full of stars.

Mr. President, Senator KENNEDY was planning to speak. While we are waiting for Senator KENNEDY, I shall quote another poem:

I saw them tearing a building down,
A group of men in a busy town;
With a "Ho, heave, ho" and a lusty yell.
They swung a beam and the sidewall fell.

I said to the foreman, "Are these men skilled
The type you'd hire if you had to build?"
He laughed, and then he said, "No, indeed,
Just common labor is all I need;
I can easily wreck in a day or two,
That which takes builders years to do."

I said to myself as I walked away,
"Which of these roles am I trying to play?
Am I a builder who works with care,
Building my life by the rule and square?
Am I shaping my deeds by a well-laid plan,
Patiently building the best I can?
Or am I a fellow who walks the town,
Content with the labor of tearing down?"

Mr. President, I yield the floor.
The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Democratic leader is recognized.

TRIBUTE TO JIM ENGLISH

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, I come to the floor today to honor a very special person. His name is Jim English. He is the Democratic staff director of the Senate Committee on Appropriations. In the course of the 30 years he has worked in the Federal Government, 23 of which were right here in the Senate, Jim has served the Senate and the American people with great distinction.

I have had the privilege of working with and getting to know Jim well as he carried out his responsibilities on one of the most important committees of the U.S. Senate, the Senate Appropriations Committee. Very few people I have encountered in my time in the Senate—be they members or staff—have made as big a difference in the lives of everyday working people. Throughout his Senate career, Jim has constantly and consistently done what is best for the American public, regardless of their political persuasion and social status.

Although he worked directly for our colleague, Senator BYRD, Jim has always had time to listen to and help deal with the needs and requests of any

Senator who came to him seeking assistance. I have seen first hand his patience, his expertise, and his willingness to lend his considerable talents to help Member after Member do right by their constituencies. Perhaps the greatest tribute one can pay to Jim's professionalism and expertise is that he has managed to attain the absolute trust and confidence of Senator BYRD. Suffice it to say that such a feat is as major as it is rare.

During his time in the Senate, Jim has set a standard of conduct and accomplishment that will be exceedingly difficult to match. In my mind, Jim has come to symbolize what we mean when we use the term public servant. I thank him for choosing to spend part of his life with us. We are all better off as a result.

I wish him well in whatever he chooses to pursue in the next stage of his life and hope that others who follow in his footsteps remember the lofty standards he established.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair recognizes the Senator from Minnesota.

Mr. WELLSTONE. Mr. President, I came to the floor and I heard Senator BYRD and Senator DASCHLE speak about Jim English. The only thing I can say about Jim English—not nearly as well as the two of them have spoken about him—is, No. 1, he has worked for and with the master, Senator BYRD. I think he knows almost as much as Senator BYRD does about the appropriations process—maybe not quite as much. But I can tell Senator BYRD that I think Jim is a lot like Mike Epstein, my former deputy. I came here and I knew so little. Maybe I now know a little more. I still have a lot to learn.

Jim is just so gracious and so willing, when people are just rushing and rushing, to take time and mentor you and to be your teacher. Jim worked for Senator BYRD, but in a way I believe he was there to work for all of us. He certainly helped me a lot. At the beginning I hesitated to ask him. I knew of his expertise. When he was so gracious and so obliging and never made me feel as if I was a fool, then I believed he was a great teacher, willing to answer more questions. I have asked him many, many questions. He has answered those questions. He has helped me. He has helped a lot of Senators.

He truly represents the very best of public service. We are going to lose a great man. The country is going to lose a great man. There is no question about it.

I thank you, Jim.

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, I am delighted to have the opportunity to join my colleagues in this well-deserved tribute to Jim English, who is retiring from the Senate after 30 years of outstanding service. Jim has done a brilliant job over the years as both a

majority staff director and a minority staff director on the Senate Appropriations Committee, and we will all miss him very much.

Jim was talented and always helpful, and he was an enormous source of advice and counsel for all of us on so many aspects of the appropriations process. Whatever the issue, and however complex the process, especially as the annual deadline neared, Jim was always a steady hand and a remarkable source of inspiration and wise counsel.

Jim's name may not be well known to the citizens of our states, but over the years, the people of all 50 states have benefitted immensely from Jim's skillful work.

It is a tribute as well to our distinguished colleague, Senator BYRD, that he has had the remarkable service of such an outstanding member of his staff over the years. We will all miss Jim very much. We thank him for his extraordinary services to the Senate and the nation, and we extend our best wishes to Jim and his family for a long and happy retirement in the years ahead.

Mr. WELLSTONE. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST— S. 1

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I think it is essential that we go forward with our education reform package. A lot of good work has been done in the Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee. Senators on both sides of the aisle—Republican and Democrat—have worked hard. They reported out a bill overwhelmingly from the committee. A great deal of negotiation has gone on since then between members of the committee, the House and Senate, both parties, and the administration. A lot of the reform language has been agreed to, with a lot of understanding about the amount of funds that will be necessary to implement this legislation.

But the important thing is that we go forward. I do not think you could ever get every detail worked out and agreed to in advance. It is called the legislative process. You go to the Chamber, you have debate, you have amendments, you have votes, you get a result, and you pass the bill.

Over the past couple years, I have quite often been criticized that I would not let the Senate work its will. And now, for a week, the Democrats have been blocking going to the bill, blocking the motion to proceed to the education bill.

This is the highest priority for this President, I believe for the Congress, both parties, and for the children.

I believe that if we go forward and have a good debate and have amendments that we will get a result that will be good in improving the quality of education in America.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now turn to the consideration of Calendar No. 23, S. 1, the Elementary and Secondary Education Act.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there an objection?

Mr. WELLSTONE. Reserving the right to object, I say to the majority leader that where I would dissent from his remarks is that actually there is a lot of negotiation going on. I think Senators on our side have made some very basic points. One is, it is important what is in the bill before it comes to the floor. Two, I think we are quite far apart, although hopefully we at some time will be together about whether or not, in fact, there will be the investment in children, to make sure that the children and the teachers and the schools have the tools to succeed. This is really a choice between whether or not you want to put so much into, I say to the majority leader, Robin-Hood-in-reverse tax cuts, with over 40 percent of the benefits going to the top 1 percent of the population, or you are willing to make the investment in education and children.

I am so pleased the President has announced the goal of leaving no child behind. But it cannot be done on a tin cup budget. We are looking at the whole issue of kids with special needs, the IDEA program, the title I program, afterschool programs, teacher recruitment, smaller class size, and doing something about these dilapidated buildings.

So my hope is we will be able to resolve what I think are important questions. But I think the Democrats are very committed to this discussion about education, very committed to doing it right. If, in fact, we are going to call this piece of legislation, as the President has, the BEST, then we ought to be doing our best for children. I have no doubt that the people in Minnesota and the people across this country are looking for a real commitment of resources and the Federal Government living up to its obligation. We should be accountable. Just as we call for the teachers and the children to be accountable, we should be accountable as well. That is what we are going to be strong on.

I object.

Mr. LOTT. To clarify, does the Senator object to bringing up and going forward with the education bill?

Mr. WELLSTONE. I said I object to going forward with the education bill while we are in negotiation, while we do not know what is in the bill, while